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franks, but if the English system gets into vogue, it will require as many pounds, and consequently only persons of wealth would be able to give parties, and none but people from whom favour and influence are expected will be invited.

The use of cotton as applied to burns and scalds, is now becoming general in the French hospitals, as it is found to be very efficacious; the discovery of this remedy was one of pure chance. The wife of an American, whose child had been severely burnt, having laid it on an open bale of cotton, was astonished to find its cries cease almost instantly. Being a sensible woman, she guessed at the cause, and by covering the child's wounds with cotton for two or three weeks, they were completely healed. The theatre of the opera comique, remains closed, in consequence of the insolvency of the management, several of the first French singers are therefore without employment, and Miss Smithson who was engaged at a salary of £60 per week, is of course among the sufferers.

A French paper, *le Voleur*, contains the following account of a remarkable invention. I do not however guarantee the infallibility of the discovery, "a Swede," says the *Voleur*, "has invented a machine to heat rooms without fire; it is very simple, and is composed of two wheels placed parallel, but turning in opposite directions with great rapidity, the agitation of the air produces a heat equal to that from a stove," I should be inclined to say from a stove without fire.

There is a very interesting letter in the *Nieu-en advertente blad*, dated June 12th, from the Chateau of Loo, giving an account of a Bavarian born blind, who can by his mouth alone, produce the most melodious sounds and harmonies of a number of musical instruments. The most remarkable of all are his flute duos,

#### ROYAL IRISH ACADEMY.

June 28th, 1830.

The Academy merely met and adjourned to Monday, July 12, in consequence of the lamented demise of his Majesty. The following donations were presented at the preceding meeting of council:—Reflections on the Decline of Science in England, by Charles Babbage, Esq. &c. &c. presented by the author. Address of Earl Stanhope, president of the Medico-Botanical Society for the anniversary meeting, 1830; sent by the society.

On the Siamese Twins, by G. B. Bolton, Esq. with a wax model of the fleshy band which unites them, presented by Mr. Bolton.

and the sound of a harmonica which resembles the exquisite music of the Eolian harp.

An improvement in lithography has just been introduced by a young artist, named Bernard Doundorf of Berlin, who has adopted a process already used in engravings in brass. The lithographic stone is composed of a calcareous *chiste* intersected by hard veins and pieces of quartz, which the needle now in use cannot cut through with ease. M. Doundorf has invented the adoption of diamond points cut with great care, and fixed in a handle. These points cannot wear away, and pass without any impediment through the defective part of the stone. When attached to a compass, they trace the letters with a regularity which could not be attained by the hand. By means of this process, the invention has already worked without trouble the stones of Prussia, which hitherto could be employed only after great labour.

Another French paper says, "The principal topic of conversation at Maestrel, is the criminal proceeding instituted against the clergyman of Mechelens, for having in conjunction with two Acolytes, inflicted the punishment of the knout on a poor woman, being anxious by this gentle mode of correction, to induce her to live virtuously with her husband: the instrument by which this work of charity was to be consummated, was nothing less than the cord of the church clock; since the first examination of witnesses by the civil magistrate, the *Journal of Ghent*, which is the organ of the bigoted party, has exhausted its ingenuity in efforts to hush the matter up, and has actually endeavoured to persuade the public that this reverend redressor of a husband's wrong is a poor simpleton with an excess of mad zeal, but unhappily of no discretion. The wretch, however, will be prosecuted.

Two very interesting Essays were to have been read on the double refraction of light, and on the rectification of conic sections, both by — Mc. Cullagh, Esq. presented by Dr. Sadleir.

We have much pleasure in announcing that the first part of the 16th volume of the Royal Irish Academy Transactions, containing Mr. D'Alton's Essay on the ancient History of Ireland, and a scientific paper, will be published in the course of the ensuing week. With the value of the former, the readers of our *Weekly Gazette* have been already made somewhat acquainted. Of the latter it may be enough at present to say, that it is from the pen of Professor Hamilton.